

## **POSITION PAPER GUIDE (IPC)**

### **Introduction**

Welcome, esteemed journalists, to the enthralling world of the International Press Corps (IPC) at COMUN! As representatives of various renowned news outlets from around the globe, you will find yourselves at the crossroads of bustling journalism and captivating diplomacy within the Model United Nations experience.

Unlike any other committee, the IPC offers a unique opportunity for delegates to embody the role of journalists. Each of you will act as the voice of your respective news organization, whether it be the Associated Press, The Onion, The New York Times, or any other reputable media outlets. Through your reporting, you will navigate the intricate realm of international affairs and provide real-time coverage of the events unfolding in each committee.

Rather than the conventional format of position papers, COMUN IPC delegates must submit: an expository position papers and an article. Both options aim to familiarize delegates with their media agency and their respective writing styles.

### **Expository Position Paper**

An expository position paper is a document that will outline your news agency's biases, philosophies and writing styles. This will work as a synthesized representation of your media organization and guide you during committee sessions.

Within 500 words present a basic overview of your news agency. The main objective of this task is to gain a comprehensive understanding of the network you are representing. You must include these following elements:

- A brief summary of your news agency's founding (when and where)
- Your agency's general topical focus
- Any noticeable partisan biases

### **Article**

The primary purpose of this submission is to offer essential background information on the committees that you will be visiting and help acclimate delegates to their organizations' unique writing style. This paper will provide a comprehensive understanding of a committee's role, responsibilities, and relevant context. By doing so, IPC delegates can be better prepared to conduct interviews, write concise articles and examine key points of debate.

In 350-400 words, you must write an article, adopting the viewpoint of your news agency covering the Topic of Discussion for the World Health Organization (WHO). Delegates are strongly encouraged to use quotes, citations, and primary sources.

## EXAMPLE ARTICLE – The Vancouver Housing Crisis (Associated Press)

### *Vancouver Mayor urges for help with housing East Hastings residents*

Vancouver (AP) - In response to mounting concerns over tenant complaints and deteriorating sanitary conditions, city workers have commenced the dismantling of tents along East Hastings Street, displacing approximately 400 individuals who were previously living there. Due to the accumulation of tenant complaints, as well as unsanitary conditions, the local government has decided to address the lack of affordable housing, soaring real estate costs, declining citizen mental health, and the escalating issue of substance abuse.

As the tents are being removed, the city of Vancouver is struggling to find not only available, but safe housing for all that have been displaced. In the year 2020 there were approximately 2,000 houseless people in the Greater Vancouver Area (GVA). Today, the number of unhoused in the is closer to 3,000 with the number expected to grow.

Many of those affected, like Kristy Wilson, refuse to live in shelters. Wilson, who suffers from PTSD resulting from past assaults and the distressing experience of witnessing her friends being subjected to violence, emphasizes that “shelters often lack clean water and are frequently plagued by filth and infestations of rats and bedbugs”.

Meanwhile, renters in the area are urging for additional support to address the issue of homelessness, citing concerns about drug use within the camps. Moreover, the presence of tents poses fire hazards, further motivating government workers to expedite the street clearing process.

In the face of protests and resistance from the unhoused population, the Vancouver police have been compelled to halt the sweeping of the streets, resulting in a rapid return to the initial situation.

Mayor Ken Sim of Vancouver is urging the provincial and federal governments to provide more assistance in identifying safe and affordable housing solutions, not only for the residents of East Hastings but for all those affected across the GVA.

Responding to the growing crisis, the federal government has pledged to double the funding allocated to Canada's Homeless Strategy, raising the amount from \$2 billion to \$4 billion over the course of the next nine years.

## **Formatting**

All submission should be written single spaced, with MLA style citations (when necessary) and, in a multi paragraph format.